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Okemo Valley Holiday Lights

LUDLOW, Vt. – Happy Holidays! The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce is encouraging participation in the first annual Okemo Valley Lights for the holidays. Businesses, municipalities, neighborhoods, and residents in the region are asked to make an extra effort to decorate this year to help celebrate the holiday season. Everyone could use more joy this time of year.

Businesses, municipalities, and residents are encouraged to decorate their storefronts, downtowns, villages, neighborhoods, and homes. Towns, Parks and Recreation departments, and other partners are asked to decorate their village green gazebos. One suggestion



Light up town with festive decorations. STOCK PHOTO

is that each location include a decorated tree, big or small, real or not, or a few trees. Get creative! The main idea is to deco-

rate all of Okemo Valley with holiday lights, in all colors, visible from the street.

Participants are encouraged to share photos of their decorations with the chamber's social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Please use #OkemoValleyHolidayLights. Winners will be selected in various categories: business, town, resident, etc.

The chamber is also working on a promotional map and listing of holiday lighting and decorations for all the 12 towns in their region in South Central Vermont. The

Park & Recreation departments of each community are encouraged to join forces to collaborate to get all the downtowns and villages festively decorated. The chamber will promote the event map, together with links for holiday shopping, restaurants for takeout, and it will highlight all the fun holiday activities in the region.

Although this is a short timeframe, the chamber hopes the region will help to share the holiday spirit. The regional promotion of this event will begin in early December. We would really appreciate getting your lights and decorations up as soon as possible!

For more information, go to www.yourplaceinvermont.com.

Jack is back!



Jack is back and ready to get down to business! Jack made the journey from the North Pole early this year, and returned to our office after self-isolating. Now he can enjoy the whole month with us all. Jack has been cleaning and sanitizing the office diligently preparing for the holiday season.

PHOTO PROVIDED

GMUSD budget shows small increase, will revisit administration structure

BY SHARON HUNTLEY

The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. – The Green Mountain Unified School District Finance Committee saw some positive budget numbers for the fiscal year 2022 at their Nov. 23 meeting, with the proposed budget of \$14,353,882, representing a scant 1.74% increase over last year's approved budget.

According to the presentation from Two Rivers Supervisory Union Superintendent Lauren Fierman, the primary drivers of the increase is a \$205,000 increase in the assessment from the TRSU budget, 65% of their budget being passed along to GMUSD, and an \$86,000 increase in benefit costs.

The TRSU budget this year will likely be the most contentious, with a proposed 16.25% increase, due to skyrocketing special education costs, which

will increase by \$768,000, as well as benefit increases. That budget also includes a proposed facilities director position for \$39,000, for someone to coordinate and oversee building maintenance and repairs in all five TRSU school buildings.

That position has been somewhat controversial with TRSU Board Chairman Joe Fromberger openly opposing the added position at the last TRSU budget meeting, saying that if the problem is with coordination between the buildings, there are better ways to fix the problem. He also expressed concern that area voters have no input on the TRSU budget.

During this GMUSD Finance Committee meeting, Fromberger said that he would cast his vote based on the direction from the GMUSD board since he is on the TRSU board as their representative.

Cavendish Town Elementary

and Chester-Andover Elementary School Principal Katherine Fogg said that it makes more sense to have oversight at the district level to coordinate building needs, relieve the administrators from trying to coordinate with several different people, and be responsible for applying for available grants.

Board chair Deb Brown and board member Kate Lamphere both expressed their support for the position saying the supervisory position could provide savings district-wide and reduce the burden on the administrative staff.

After discussion, the board voted unanimously to have Fromberger, as well as other GMUSD representatives, to vote in favor of the facilities director position at the next TRSU meeting Thursday, Dec. 3.

All proposed budgets are available for viewing on the

TRSU website, www.trsu.org.

During the GMUSD regular monthly meeting Nov. 18, the board agreed to begin assembling a Principal Search Committee for Green Mountain Union High School. Mike Ripley, former assistant principal at GMUHS, is currently serving as interim principal. Fierman said that beginning a formal search was in no way a negative commentary on Ripley's performance and that Ripley will be applying for the job.

Fierman recommended the committee should be made up of 9-12 members, including a mix of board members, staff, parents, TRSU curriculum coordinator, and special services director as well as students. The committee process has begun with Fromberger and Fierman meeting to begin committee setup.

Fierman recommended that if Ripley were hired as princi-

pal, there would be no need to hire an assistant principal. If the decision were made to hire someone else, Ripley would move back to an assistant principal role.

CTES and CAES families and staff will soon be receiving a survey to capture their thoughts on how the revised administrative principal structure for the elementary schools has worked for everyone this year. With the sudden departure of CTES Principal Deb Beaupre last year, CAES Principal Katherine Fogg and Assistant Principal Kevin Fay became principal and vice principal team overseeing both schools, each being at both schools interchangeably.

Once survey results are back, they will be looking at whether to continue with the current structure or revise based on recommendations.

Fierman announced that

the decision has been made to cancel the ski and snow sports program at the schools. New health and safety restrictions from Okemo Mountain Resort, which include no long renting helmets, a mandated 6-1 student to adult ratio, no bags allowed in the lodge, no access to the lodge except to eat, all contributed to the decision that it was "not feasible to run the program with these restrictions." Okemo has assured the TRSU that this will not impact the program being offered in the future.

Fogg said she would love to look for other alternatives such as snowshoeing or cross-country skiing, something that would not require busing.

The GMUSD Finance Committee will meet before the TRSU board meeting Dec. 3 at 5 p.m. The next GMUSD board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 17 at 6 p.m.

Chester-Andover Family Center Christmas Food Drive

CHESTER, Vt. – While we are all struggling with the challenges of the pandemic, many of our friends and neighbors are just trying to keep food on the table. Everyone needs and deserves a bountiful holiday meal on Christmas. The Chester-Andover Family Center is determined to provide each of our more than 100 food shelf recipients with everything they need to prepare their holiday meal. There are several ways you can participate in this Food Drive.

On Dec. 12, we will be at the Chester Helping Hands-Katsiroubous Cares Produce Drop at CAES in Chester from 9-11 a.m. Family Center volunteers will be there to accept your cash donations, non-perishable food items, as well as turkeys and hams. Help us provide a boun-

tiful holiday meal for our food shelf recipients.

You can also donate a Katsiroubous Cares Produce Box. A Katsiroubous Cares Produce Box can be ordered and paid for online. Go to our website at www.chester-andoverfamilycenter.org. The donation link is at the top of our homepage. Your produce box donations will be delivered to our Food Shelf.



PHOTO PROVIDED

We are available to accept your food donations at the Food Shelf Thursdays, from 1-5 p.m., and Fridays, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monetary contributions are always welcome as that allows us to purchase in bulk. Send a check to CAFCC, P.O. Box 302, Chester, VT 05143. Donate through PayPal on our website, www.chester-andoverfamilycenter.org.

Lastly, please tell your friends and neighbors about the Chester-Andover Family Center. If someone you know is struggling to pay a bill, in need of food or a warm coat, tell them to call us at 802-875-3236 and leave a message. A Family Center volunteer will return their call and find a way to help.

Vermont Community Foundation makes investment in Park Street School

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Regional Development Corporation has announced that it has received a \$300,000 investment from the Vermont Community Foundation to support ongoing predevelopment work at the former Park Street School in Springfield.

SRDC Executive Director Bob Flint said that the funds would help to complete architectural and engineering work for what is currently estimated at a \$23 million redevelopment of the former school property to house the Black River Innovation Campus as well as maintain current community uses.

"We are very appreciative of the strong commitment by the Vermont Community Foundation for this downtown community redevelopment project," Flint said.



BRIC will develop its new home. PHOTO PROVIDED

Dan Smith, president and CEO of the Vermont Community Foundation, said that the funding represents the foundation's ongoing support of the BRIC project and its importance to the revitalization of Springfield. "We want to reinvigorate downtowns and create opportunity for community members through our investments. Park Street School will support entrepreneurs and new business ventures in Springfield, and we're excited to see what the future holds," says Smith.

Flint said that SRDC is actively working to pursue funding for the full redevelopment project.

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DEADLINES

The deadline for all content is **Friday at 12 p.m.** for the following Wednesday publication.

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EMAIL YOUR PRESS RELEASES, ARTICLES, AND PHOTOS
editor@vermontjournal.com

Cavendish Community Fund fundraising efforts

CAVENDISH, Vt. – On the Friday after Thanksgiving the Cavendish Community Fund held what is hoped to become an annual event. According to fund president Doug McBride, the drawing, held at Crow's Bakery in Proctorsville, was for several arts prizes and capped off a successful 2020 fundraising effort in the community.

The Community Fund was created in 2007 to enhance the quality of life in Cavendish and has distributed grants each year since then for a variety of programs, projects, and events. Grants are awarded to individuals and organizations that



Cavendish Community Fund prizes.

PHOTO PROVIDED

McBride said that this year's prizes included a woodcarving, stained glass, an oil painting, and fabric arts all created in Cavendish or Proctorsville by local residents. While 2020 was a slow year for any projects in town, the fund was able to assist three projects – the summer concerts, creation of a bicycle path, and beautifying the old garage site. "With money raised this year, we are confident that we can at least help some organizations in 2021," said McBride.

For more information about the fund or about grants and grant applications, please email Doug McBride at cavendishcommunityfund@gmail.com.

create or sponsor educational, cultural, or artistic ventures in Cavendish, or for projects that otherwise enrich the value of small-town living.

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Whiting Library provides Front Porch Pick-up

CHESTER, Vt. – The Whiting Library is now providing Front Porch Pick-up of library materials only. Due to the rising number of Covid-19 cases in the area, we are discontinuing entry by appointment. We look forward to resuming appointments when case counts go down. In the meantime, we are still here for you!

You can search the library catalog online, give us a call at 802-875-2277, or send an email to request materials for pick-up. Don't forget, the library also offers you access to thousands of eBooks and audiobooks through ListenUp! Vermont. Library cards are free to everyone in Chester and Andover, so sign up today to get your library card number and start accessing all of our great online resources.

The Youth Services department continues to offer many programs for young patrons, including virtual

preschool story time each Friday at 11 a.m. on Zoom. There is also a book club for middle grade kids each Wednesday at 1 p.m. on Zoom. The latest program addition is a monthly Arts & Craft Club meet-up for children of all ages beginning this December. Sign up and each first Wednesday of the month come pick up a take-and-make craft bag at the Whiting Library. You will receive directions, templates, and supplies to make fun and interesting craft projects at home. Remember, librarian Carrie King is always here to field your questions and coordinate projects that interest you and your kids. Get in touch with her directly at whitinglibrary3@gmail.com.

It's that special giving time of year and Whiting's "Paws of Motion" month encourages animal lovers to share in the gift of giving to the Springfield Humane Society from Dec. 1-31. During this festive season, let's

show a little extra love to our furry friends by stocking the SHS with much-needed supplies. Check out our website for a list of most needed items. Each donation enters you into a raffle to win a gift basket of amazing artisan products. Please bring donations to the library during our regular Front Porch Pick-up hours.

Lastly, this is your advance notice that Whiting Library will change opening hours starting Saturday, Jan. 2, 2021. The new hours will be Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. This is a change of days from Monday to Tuesday opening, but will be the same number of open hours that your library is here to serve you. You can keep in touch with Whiting Library news on our website, www.whitinglibrary.org, by signing up for our electronic newsletter, or on our Facebook or Instagram pages.

BRSU budget deliberations begin

REGION – The Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union Board and its member districts conduct their fiscal year 2022 budget deliberations with a series of board meetings across the entirety of its operations in December 2020 and January 2021. FY22 covers expenditures from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The BRSU administers elementary and secondary education for three member school districts: Taconic & Green Regional School District, Mettaw-

ee School District, and Winhall School District.

First up on the FY22 budget calendar will be the BRSU Board Meeting Monday, Dec. 7 at 6:30 p.m. The BRSU budget includes overhead expenses that will ultimately be allocated to each of its three school districts. Winhall initiates its FY22 budget discussions the following day, Dec. 8 at 5 p.m. Budget building continues the next week with the Mettawee School District Monday, Dec. 14 and T&G set for Tuesday, Dec. 15. Both the Mettawee and T&G sessions are scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

Dates and times for all December and January meetings can be found at www.BRSU.org. Logistics for public online participation, including agendas and background material, will be posted a few days prior to each meeting on the calendar section of the BRSU website.

"Covid creates a number of unique challenges and uncertainties for our schools," says BRSU Board Chair Jim Salsgiver, "but it also triggers an opportunity for important discussions on the future of education for our children. The public is encouraged to attend and participate online. It's important for us to hear from you."

The budgets reviewed and developed by the three District Boards in December and January will ultimately be proposed to the public for final approval Tuesday, March 2, 2021. T&G operates K-8 public schools for the communities of Danby, Dorset, Landgrove, Londonderry, Manchester, Mount Tabor, Peru, Sunderland, and Weston. Mettawee offers K-6 education for the communities of Rupert and Pawlet. Winhall's Board oversees the community's school choice program for all grades.

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Stuff the Fire Truck

LUDLOW, Vt. – Ludlow Fire Department will host a Stuff the Fire Truck Food Drive at Shaw's Supermarket the weekend of Dec. 12-13, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., to benefit the Black River Good Neighbors Food Shelf.

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LOCAL HISTORY

BY RON PATCH

Ron Patch is a Chester native, Chester Historical Society president, and a lifelong antiques dealer.

He can be reached at 802-374-0119 or email knotz69@gmail.com

Junior High School

The Academy Building was built in 1881 as the Central High School. When the new high school was built on Depot Hill, circa 1911, the Central became a graded school. When Chester Elementary was built, the Central became Chester Junior High School.

Years ago I heard it said that the Central was built from recycled bricks from the original Chester Academy. This probably isn't true. Chester Academy was built in 1814 of soft brick. The current Academy Building is built of hard brick. But up in the attic of the Academy Building are ancient hand-hewn timbers.

Well before 1881 hewing timbers had been replaced with sawmills. These are large timbers maybe 8-by-8 inches. What was recycled from Chester Academy was these old timbers.

In my day this school was the Junior High School. I have many memories of both teachers and happenings here.

Mr. Clough
Mr. Clough, pronounced like "rough," was our science teacher. Mr. Clough was different. I remember a parent saying he probably should be teaching college not grade schoolers. He often began class reading poetry to us. We hated it, but Mr. Clough was going to learn us. Sometimes he got teary-eyed as he read to us.

I remember Mr. Clough teaching us about reproduction. You know body fluids etc. Some of us kids knew he was talking about sex. One kid asked, "How do body fluids pass from one body to another?" We knew we just wanted to put him on the spot. Mr. Clough replied, "Through body contact."

Mr. Clough really had bad breath. He often said you didn't need toothpaste; baking soda worked just fine. Believe me this isn't true. He pronounced electricity as "electwicity."

Mrs. Stocker
Mrs. Stocker taught French, music, and math. She was a lively teacher and well liked. One day in 1964 I got in trouble. I don't remember now what crime I had committed, but I was guilty. I ran down into the boys' bathroom to escape her pursuit.

When she followed me into the boys' bathroom, I said to her, "You can't come in here." To which she replied, "You don't have anything I haven't seen before." Curses foiled



The Academy Building with gravestones below.
PHOTO PROVIDED BY CHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

again.

Mr. Richardson
I didn't like Mr. Richardson. I thought he was a little dictator. In June of 1965 I graduated Chester Junior High School. We were all looking forward to going to Chester High School with the big kids.

My last class that year was upstairs in Richardson's class. A neat store for us kids was Ruth's Gifts. Ruth sold all kinds of novelties. Do you remember the buzzer you held in your hand? When you shook someone's hand, they got a good jolt. This is where I bought the party popper.

"Anyhoo," as my mother used to say, us kids went running down the stairs for the last time. In my pocket was the party popper. Party poppers looked like a miniature bottle of champagne with a little ripcord. As I started down the stairs, I pulled the ripcord. There was a loud pop and confetti flew.

Richardson grabbed me and dragged me back upstairs into the office for punishment. He stormed in the office with me in tow exclaiming, "This boy lit off a firecracker!" Lucky for me, Arnold had no problem with my criminal activity.

In my day we walked down to the elementary school for hot lunch. We were not escorted. Some of us kids skipped across

the street to Pember Hazen's drug store. Here we spent our lunchtime sitting at the soda fountain. This was a lot of fun. Pember never liked me.

Another memory is when President Kennedy was assassinated. I was in Mrs. Griffith's room upstairs. We were all sent home from school early that day. I remember walking home trying to understand what happened.

And there was the day Bud Nadeau jumped out of the second story window. We had a substitute teacher that day. Bud stood up and said, "I've had enough of this," and jumped out the window. Bud knew he would land on the fire escape. The teacher turned white as a ghost. Soon Bud came up the fire escape and entered the room. God those days were fun.

The photo with this article is in the 2021 Chester Historical Society calendar. They are available at Blair Books & More, Chester Hardware, Framery of Vermont, Stone House Antiques Center, Town Hall, and Smitty's Chester Market.

This week's old saying my mother used: "The bigger your kids get the bigger your problems get."



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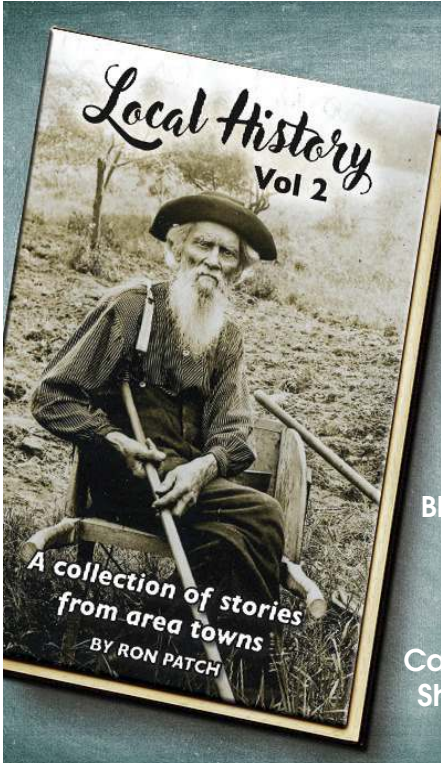


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VAULT Open Wall Show: People, Places, and Things

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Gallery at the VAULT is proud to present a new Open Wall Show "People, Places, and Things." This show includes beautiful photographs, paintings, paper sculpture, an artist cutout book, encaustics, cyanotype, jewelry, fiber art, and needlework. What a beautiful and diverse collection of works by your neighbors and friends! The art will be on display until Dec. 26. Open Wall is a non-ju-



"Autumn Rush" by Shane Harris.
PHOTO PROVIDED

ried show for any artists living in a 30-mile radius of Springfield. Let us know if you would like to participate.

Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main Street in Springfield, is open Wednesday and Saturday, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., and Friday, from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. For more information, call 802-885-7111, email galleryvault@vermontel.net, or visit www.galleryvault.org.

Gov. Scott calls on Vermonters to decorate with lights

MONTPELIER, Vt. – Gov. Phil Scott is encouraging families and businesses to help show Vermont Lights the Way, an effort to literally brighten communities and neighborhoods around the state by decorating homes, businesses, trees, or other creative ideas to help celebrate the holidays during the pandemic.

"I know how hard this pandemic has been, especially as we make our way through the holidays without the 'normal' get-togethers and sense of closeness we all want," said Scott. "So, in celebration of the coming holiday season, I think it's time to lift our spirits. Let's get creative and show the world that Ver-

monsters are here for each other and that even through these dark and difficult times, Vermont Lights the Way."

In addition to decorating, Vermonters should share pictures of their displays – or favorites from around the community – on social media using the hashtag #VTLightsTheWay. This will allow those who are not able to tour the lights to take part in the holiday celebration.

The Vermont Association of Broadcasters and Vermont businesses and organizations are supporting this effort to help bring cheer to the coming holiday season. Photos posted using the #VTLightsTheWay

hashtag could be chosen by a news outlet and shared on their pages to help spread the light.

"I hope this effort will spread joy and hope, especially for our kids," the governor added. "We can make a holiday season during a once-in-a-century pandemic truly memorable for our kids in a fun and positive way. Together, we can celebrate this season and remind each other that there are brighter days ahead."

The governor hopes for strong participation in these trying times to prove that once again, Vermont Lights the Way.



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opinion

Dear Editor,

It has been a true pleasure seeing the transformation of the historic 1868 Woolson Block on my daily trips in Springfield. I thank all who pursued the funding, planning, and expert work on all aspects of this stunning building. How wonderful that it will provide both housing and beautiful, downtown retail space.

I appreciate all the efforts over the past several years to restore historic buildings as well as open up the riverfront above the Comtu Falls by removing some buildings. This provides an open space where people can safely gather outdoors, perhaps over cups of coffee from Flying Crow Coffee. Among its many endeavors, Springfield on the Move adds to the downtown beauty with whimsical plant-

ings in front of the movie theater and Town Hall. The Springfield Garden Club's sidewalk boxes and plantings border our trips through town. Thank you to SOM, the Garden Club, and all who make Springfield beautiful in many ways!

Many thanks to the Springfield Chamber of Commerce for its work in promoting Springfield businesses, including the upcoming Local Loyalty Program. Be sure to read Top Ten Reasons to Shop Local on their website, www.springfieldvt.com, which includes "Small local businesses build strong communities by encouraging neighborhood relationships, both social and economic. Area businesses give back to local causes and help to support vibrant town centers."

Gallery at the VAULT has been a downtown store and arts center for the past 19 years. As a long time volunteer, I value the role of Vault as a marketplace for artists who have not been able to sell directly through in-person craft fairs. I thank Vault's small part-time staff, volunteers, board members, members, donors, and customers who keep Vault's doors open. In these difficult times, it is pure pleasure for people to walk into this lovely space and see the creations of some 125 craftspeople and art-

ists, and admire the ingenuity of friends and neighbors in Vault's unique Open Wall exhibits.

I am also thankful for the funding we received from the Vermont Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts that have helped us pay basic expenses after being closed from March until May. A current ReVTA grant has enabled us to have a new website with the capacity to sell online. Thank you to Mike Dion from Indelible for making this happen, and thank you to Steven Osterlund for managing our website for many years. Thanks also to Claremont Savings Bank for contributing to our technological makeover through their CSB Grant Program.

We hope to see you at Gallery at the VAULT! Proud to be a Vermont State Craft Center, we are open on Wednesday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. We also invite you to set up your own shopping appointment for up to five people on upcoming Sunday afternoons. Call 802-885-7111 to reserve. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Diane Kemble
Springfield, Vt.

Dear Editor,

It is with deepest appreciation and regret that I announce that the Senior Solutions Board accepted the resignation of its executive director Carol Stamatakis. During her tenure as executive director of Senior Solutions, this organization grew in its ability to provide services to aging Vermonters within its service boundaries.

By bringing her skills in grant writing, nonprofit organization management, and judicial acumen, Carol brought positive support to underserved populations in Windsor and Windham counties. Through the implementation of programs

for veterans and their families, Carol found ways to provide life assistance to people, employees, and volunteers.

Carol's connections to hospice, aging, and judicial programs assisted Senior Solutions in developing systems that bring wide ranges of assistance and care to these underserved members of our state. With her excellent financial management attributes, she enabled Senior Solutions to operate under a balanced budget while instituting new programs and technological assistance for the aging Vermonters within our region.

With sincerest gratitude and thanks, the board wholeheartedly wishes Carol fulfillment

to her calling to support vulnerable adults in her future endeavors.

As the board begins its quest for a new executive director, our search aims to deliver a vital and progressively future embracing individual who continues the strong proactive leadership Carol brought to our organization within the next six months.


If you have any questions, please contact me at bwoods@seniorsolutionsvt.org.

Sincerely,
Barbara Woods, president
Senior Solutions
Council on Aging for South-eastern Vermont

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank the many people who sent me cards and wonderful memories on my 94th birthday. What a great day and I shall read them again and again.

Sincerely,
Constance H. Bixby
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	7	2	5				6	
5					8	2		
		1		7	3			5
	5		4			3		
4				9			5	
		8			2	9		7
		4		1				2
2			9			7		8
1	3				5		9	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

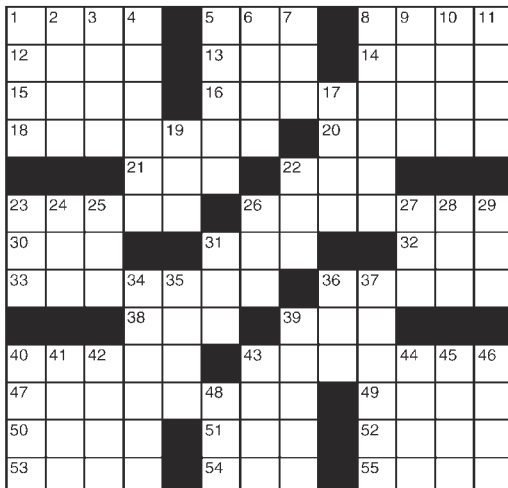
ACROSS

1 "Grand"
5 Letterman's network
8 Out of control
12 Suspend
13 Weeding tool
14 Wise one
15 Killer whale
16 Lineage
18 Astronauts' descent to Earth
20 Locations
21 Comic
22 DeLuise
23 Satchel
23 "Forget it!"
26 Nation
30 Lawyers' org.
31 Sly one
32 Nay opponent
33 Racism, e.g.
36 Aden's land
38 Bill and —
39 Adams or Ameche
40 Clean software
43 Turducken, e.g.
47 Immoderate devotion
49 Met melody
50 Taj Mahal city
51 Trouble
52 Ring up
53 Lecherous

DOWN

1 Valhalla VIP
2 Aesopian
2 also-ran
3 Formerly
4 Landlocked
25 African nation
5 Amulet
6 Skeletal
7 Moment
8 Delegate
9 Dillon or Damon
10 Shrek, for one
11 Jailer's janglers
17 Jacob's brother
19 Plaything
22 Carton
23 Apprehend
24 Japanese sash
25 Witty one
26 Coquettish
27 Scot's hat
28 Deli bread
29 Longing
31 To and —
34 Eye-related

35 Forum garment
36 Second person
37 Intertwine
39 Senior member
40 Soap brand
41 Advantage
42 Drill
43 Front of a ship
44 Snare
45 Irritate
46 New Haven campus
48 Pair



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discount" there could be fraud involved. Businesses do not survive unless they can make a profit on sales so double check the offer using independent sources and be careful shopping online. Criminals are very good at impersonation using technology to deceive you into believing something is legitimate when it is not.

3. Don't allow emotion to be the primary motivation. When people get emotional with joy, fear, sadness, or anxiety, they often lose their sense of logic and reason. This creates vulnerability to targeted appeals, both legitimate and criminal. Somber music, alarming photography, and well-chosen words spoken in a deliberate fashion are powerful influencers.

Now that you are ready to venture out or online for your holiday activities, be aware of the following traps. Bogus holiday jobs are promoted primarily by email and social media. Do some background work with independent verification of the job before responding to any offers. Fraudulent offers are often phishing expeditions to collect, use, and sell your personal information. Legitimate job offers do not ask you to pay a fee or assessment.

Package delivery scams are growing in number. These are usually efforts to either extract personal information or collect payment for "unanticipated" fees associated with the delivery. Combined with outright package theft from doorsteps, the expectation is that nearly 25 million customers will be impacted this year. You can nearly eliminate the risks by having the packages held at pick up locations that are used by major shipping companies. In the absence of a location,

schedule the delivery for a convenient time.

Carefully examine email offers before opening any links and avoid downloading any software. One clear sign that things are not as they appear can be an email address that does not match the promoted source of the email. These scams are generally presented as surveys but are designed to collect your personal information.

Conduct a background check when doing online shopping from companies that are new to you. Legitimacy can be checked through your state attorney general's office or the Better Business Bureau. Don't place an order providing any credit card information unless you are absolutely certain of the status of the company and its payment procedure is secure.

Verify before you donate! On one hand there are fake charities that use this season of giving as an opportunity to deceive, but there are also legitimate money raising efforts that may not be what they appear to be. Often charities use professional fundraisers in their efforts who keep the majority of what is collected. Evaluate your giving by researching charity status using free services such as CharityNavigator.org, CharityWatch.org, Give.org, and GuideStar.org.

Report scams and fraud to www.ftc.gov or your state consumer protection office.

Elliott Greenblott is a retired educator and coordinator of the AARP Vermont Fraud Watch Network. He hosts a CATV program, Mr. Scammer, distributed by GNAT-TV in Sunderland, Vt.

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CHURCH SERVICES

Robert L. Townsend Jr., 1943-2020

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Robert L. Townsend Jr., 77, passed away Sunday, Nov. 22, 2020 at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Mass., after a brief illness followed by Covid-19. He was born March 29, 1943 in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., the son of R. Lewis and Amelia (Sheldon) Townsend. He spent many years in the Boy Scouts, both attending and then working at Scout Camp. He was proud to have become an Eagle Scout in 1959 and also attended a National Scout Jamboree. He graduated from Arlington High School in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. in 1961, followed by receiving a B.A. from Union College in Schenectady, N.Y. in 1965.

On June 18, 1966 he married his high school sweetheart, Patricia Ann Stowe, in Poughquag, N.Y. They celebrated 54 wonderful years of marriage.

He served in the United States Air Force from 1967 to 1971, with a tour of duty in Ban Me Thout, Vietnam, and achieving the rank of Captain. Realizing he would like to work in forestry and natural resources, he applied to the University of Massachusetts and received his M.S. in forestry in 1974. During this time, he also worked with the University Year for Action in Massachusetts.

His first job in natural resources brought him to the University of Vermont Extension Service in 1974 as a community resource development specialist covering Windsor and Windham counties, and there he stayed until his retirement in 2000. He always enjoyed the people and variety of the job, taking the research of the university out to the towns. Over the years, he worked not only in natural resource management, but also rural leadership and local government training, public policy education, small business education, tourism, and recreation.

In 1982, he saw a need to bring information available at UVM to the growing tourism industry and started the first Vermont Travel Industry Conference in southern Vermont. The next year his committee oversaw a statewide conference which is now incorporated and still going on each year. In 1992 he was honored to be named the Vermont Travel Person of the Year, honoring his foresight in organizing the conference and his continuing work on the board and education committee. He continued on to Farm or Agri-Tourism and helped organize many farms to open their doors to visitors. He received many awards for his UVM Extension work, including from



Robert L. Townsend Jr., 1943-2020. PHOTO PROVIDED

other cooperating agencies, Soil Conservation and Natural Resources. He was also active with the Windsor County Agricultural Fair and started the Lumberjack Roundup contest for young people to compete.

After his retirement from UVM Ext. in 2000, he worked part-time for Huffer Forestry Associates and enjoyed this time spent with consulting foresters. He also planned and supervised the building of his dream retirement home where he was able to manage his own forestland. Building a sugarhouse was also in those plans and it became a Townsend Family sugaring operation with everyone helping and learning.

Most important always was his family. From camping trips, hunting, and cross country skiing to a mini-farm with animals, poultry, and making maple syrup, there were always activities to do with his young family and most involved the outdoors which he loved so much. Shortly before retirement, he found a camp on a lake to share with friends and family and it became a favorite of children and all the grandchildren.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by son Jamie of Springfield and his four sons James, Milo, Cabot, and Sparrow; and daughter Paula of Woodstock and her son Eli. He loved being a part of the grandchildren's lives and thoroughly enjoyed watching the ages and stages of each one. He made activities to do with them and always enjoyed their company. He is also survived by many wonderful cousins with whom he shared lots of genealogy research.

Arrangements are being made through the Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt. A memorial service and celebration of Bob's life will be held in the spring or summer when we can all get together. Memorial contributions may be made to the First Congregational Church, 77 Main St., Springfield, VT 05156.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St.

Please join us for our Advent season Sundays at 10 a.m. via Zoom. Sign up and receive the links through Facebook @ImmanuelEpiscopalChurch. For more information, go to www.immanuelepiscopal.org.

CHESTER, VT.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 313 Main St.

Zoom services are Sundays at 10 a.m. Our service will be an enhanced Rite One Morning Prayer Service with music. For information, visit www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org.

LONDONDERRY, VT.

First Baptist Church, 62 Crescent St., S. Londonderry, Vt.

Worship services are now online-only and can be live streamed at www.firstbaptistslondonderryvt.org/streaming-worship.html. For more information, visit www.firstbaptistslondonderryvt.org or call 802-856-7266.

LUDLOW, VT.

Tyson Community Church, Corner of Rt. 100 and Dublin Rd.

Service is at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom. For more information, go to Facebook @TysonCommunityChurch, call 802-522-8249, or email cindysummer55@gmail.com.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

First Congregational Church UCC, 77 Main St.

Sunday services are at 9:30 a.m. Live streaming is available on Facebook @FCCUCCSpringfield. For more information, call 802-885-5728, email fccucc@vermontel.net, or go to www.fccuccspfdvt.org.

WALPOLE, N.H.

St. John's Episcopal Church, corner of Westminster and Elm St.

As the weather turns colder, worship services have returned to Zoom Sundays at 10 a.m. For more information, go to www.stjohnswalpole.org.

Virginia R. Curley, 1938-2020

WALPOLE, N.H. – Virginia R. Curley from Walpole, N.H. passed away Nov. 22, 2020. She was born Nov. 8, 1938 in Holmdel, N.J., the daughter of Alice and Frank Curley and step-mother Helen.

She graduated from Freehold High School in New Jersey in 1957. She loved her agriculture course and events the best. Her last job in New Jersey was in the billing department for McGraw Hill Publishing Company. She moved to Alstead Center, N.H., January 1969.

Virginia married several times, but none of her marriages worked out. She went back to her maiden name and claimed her dad (farmer) as the only man who really loved her.

Ginny, as she was called, worked at many different jobs. Since she spent most of her younger years on her dad's small farm, that lifestyle was the best as he taught her all about farm life and was very active on all the farm equipment.

Ginny was a secretary at St. George Hotel in New York and at the college in Claremont, N.H. and other various office jobs. Her heart was still with farming. She drove trucks, tractors, and all farm equipment. In her younger days she had horses and Black Angus baby beef in the 4-H club. Her love for cattle never changed.

Her former husband had a sawmill where she enjoyed working hard logging, mill work, and did all the office duties. She raised six oxen during that time.

At the end of her working years, she worked for Home Health Care and was a special education aide for Fall Moun-



Virginia R. Curley, 1938-2020. PHOTO PROVIDED

tain School District. Her last job was at Cheshire Medical Center in environmental services, until leaving due to a heart condition at the age of 70 years old.

Ginny is survived by her two sons, Richard B. Crawford Jr. and his wife Shelly, owner and operator of Vermont Steel Craft, and Captain Lawrence Taylor Jr. and his wife Deborah of Walpole and North Dumplin Island, Long Island Sound.

She loved all animals and gentle people.

Virginia suffered from a family inherited heart condition.

She is predeceased by two sisters from New Jersey, Lois Keller and Marion Bazat, and an older brother Frank Curley Jr. from Honesdale, Pa. She is survived by her brother Robin and wife Diana of Maryland, Md., Rulief and wife Debra of Mt. Pleasant, Pa., and sister Sandra Griffin in Staten Island, N.Y. She loved each and every grandchild, niece, and nephew like they were all her very own.

There are no calling hours. A family gathering will take place at Alstead Center Cemetery.

Bridget M. Ritchie, 1974-2020

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Bridget May Ritchie, 46, passed away peacefully at her home Nov. 13, 2020. She was born Aug. 21, 1974 in Rutland, Vt., daughter of Barbara and Robert Ritchie. She attended school in Bellows Falls and Springfield.

She enjoyed spending time with her family, her children, and especially her grandchildren. She was an amazing person with a huge heart and so much love for the ones she cared for. Her smile lit up every room she walked into.

Bridget is survived by three daughters Natausha Bourquin, Jasmin Clark, and Kiesha Ritchie, and one son Trevor Clark; grandchildren Jewels Bourquin, Xaidyn Robinson, and a granddaughter due in February; her three sisters Bonnie Lawrence, Becky Gibson, and



Bridget M. Ritchie, 1974-2020. PHOTO PROVIDED

Barbara Ritchie; three brothers Brian Ritchie, Brad Ritchie, and Robert Ritchie; her boyfriend Jon Fagans; and her mother Barbara Ritchie. She is predeceased by her father Robert Ritchie and grandson Blake Daxter.

Emily N. Chambers, 1996-2020

CHESTER, Vt. – Emily N. Chambers, 24, of Chester, passed away unexpectedly the morning of Friday, Nov. 20, 2020 as the result of an accidental drug overdose. She was born Aug. 5, 1996 in Springfield, the daughter of Nathan D. Chambers and Jessica Holmes.

Emily attended Black River High School. Most recently, she was employed by Crows Bakery and Opera House Cafe in Proctorsville. Emily enjoyed art, music, cooking, fishing, and all things nature.

She will always be remembered for her free spirit, kind heart, willingness to always help anyone in need, love of life, and her beautiful smile. For a few months recently, she had been sober and seemed to be on the road to recovery. During this time, the family was fortunate to have spent some quality time with the real Emily – the person she was before addiction took her from us. Her family will be forever grateful for this time and will cherish these memories, and all of their memories, of her forever.

Emily is survived by her parents Nathan Chambers and Jessica Frasca; stepfather Paul Frasca; her sister Lily Nelson; stepbrothers Zachary and Colby Frasca; maternal great-grandmother Elsie Zucco of Canaan, Conn.; grandparents Bernard and Deb Kirchner of Ashley Falls, Mass.; paternal great-grandparents David and Victoria Creaser of Ludlow; grandmother Shelly Creaser Hobbs of Cavendish; paternal grandfather Rick Chambers of Clermont, Fla.; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

As her parents, we will miss her with every fiber of our beings; but also as her parents, we will no longer have to wit-



Emily N. Chambers, 1996-2020. PHOTO PROVIDED

ness her pain or worry about this day coming as we have for years because it's here, and it will leave an empty place in our hearts forever.

Our only solace is that she is now free from the struggles that haunted her, and she can now forever rest in peace. We loved Emily more than life itself, but that love could not protect her. If a parent's love could fix addiction, it would have been eradicated years ago. The grief of this loss is infinite to us. And now, so is she.

No family is immune to this disease of addiction, and it is merciless. It is up to us to open our minds and hearts to those who are still suffering from this disease that is killing our children and shattering families. It is not something to be ashamed of. Any family can fall victim to this. We hope that Emily's passing won't be in vain and that someone's life can be spared from this tragedy. If you or anyone you know suffers from this disease, please know you're not alone.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Davis Memorial Chapel of Springfield is assisting with arrangements.

Michael E. Gintof Sr., 1933-2020

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Michael E. Gintof Sr., 87, lifelong resident of Springfield, passed away Nov. 26, 2020 in the comfort of his home after an eight-year battle with lung cancer. He was surrounded by his wife and children in his last days.

He was born Nov. 7, 1933, son of Felix and Emilia (Zurawowicz) Gintof who both predeceased him.

He married Arlene Johnson July 18, 1959. They were married 61 years.

He is survived by his wife; son Michael Gintof Jr. (Jeannie) of West Rutland, Vt.; daughter Michelle (Brian) Milano of Normandy, Tenn.; son Steven (Jodi) Gintof of Springfield, Vt.; Thomas (Danielle) Gintof of Meredith, N.H.; seven grandchildren; two step-grandchildren and four step-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his brother Henry Gintof and sister Lorraine Wescott.

He graduated in 1951 from Springfield High School where he played on the basketball team.

He participated in the co-op course and worked at Parks and Woolson until 1962, with two years serving in the United States Army. He spent 14 months in Korea. He worked at Fellows Gear Shaper from 1962 until 1990. After retiring, he enjoyed spending time with



Michael E. Gintof Sr., 1933-2020. PHOTO PROVIDED

his wife, children, and grandchildren. He also enjoyed gardening, maple sugaring, and meeting friends at the diner for coffee, where he would bring his extra vegetables to share. He also found pleasure in having breakfast once a month with the Class of 1951.

He belonged to the Hitormis Club, where he was president for over 20 years. He also was a member of VFW Post 771.

The family would like to thank Dr. Konstantin Dragnev, the doctors and staff of Dartmouth Hitchcock Hospital, and Bayada Hospice for all of their care.

Funeral services will be held in the spring of 2021 and announced at that time.

Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt. is assisting with arrangements.

Church Services

We are currently running Social Distancing Church Services on an alternating schedule, and each run typically once a month. Church Service listings are subject to space.

Online at: www.VermontJournal.com

Click the "News" drop down on the green navigation bar, then choose "Obituaries & Services."

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OBITUARY SUBMISSIONS

The staff at The Vermont Journal recently came to the difficult decision that as of December 1, 2020, we will be charging for our obituary submissions. In an endeavor to make the transition to a paid listing fair to our readership, our fees are as follows:

- A 200-word submission will be a base price of \$50 with a charge of \$0.20 per word after
- A black and white photo is an additional \$10 charge
- Check or credit card prepayment is mandatory, but please note that our credit card terminal charges a 3.5% fee for processing

Obituaries must be submitted to editor@vermontjournal.com by Monday 12 p.m. to be included in that week's Wednesday paper.

outdoor news

Archery and muzzleloader deer hunting season

REGION – Hunters still have several days of archery and muzzleloader deer hunting to enjoy in Vermont.

Archery deer hunting continues through Dec. 15, and

muzzleloader deer hunting will occur Dec. 5 to 13. An archery deer license, in addition to a hunting license, is required to hunt during the archery season. An antlerless

deer or a legal buck – if you did not take one earlier – are allowed during this season.

A muzzleloader deer license, in addition to a hunting license, is required to hunt during the muzzleloader season. A legal buck may be taken – if you did not take one earlier – or an antlerless deer may be taken in a designated Wildlife Management Unit if you have a muzzleloader antlerless deer permit. A few of these permits are still available on Vermont Fish & Wildlife’s website, www.vtfishandwildlife.com, for WMUs K and N in south-western Vermont.

Vermont has an annual limit of four deer during its deer hunting seasons, including only one legal buck annually during those seasons.



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Vail Resorts opens Okemo, Snow, Stowe in Vermont

LUDLOW, Vt. – A combination of superlative snow-making technology and a dedicated operations staff allowed for Vail Resorts’ Vermont ski areas to open for the 2020/2021 ski and snowboard season. Stowe, Okemo, and Mount Snow opened Nov. 25 with exclusive early season access for Epic Pass holders through Dec. 7, 2020.

Vail Resorts is committed to keeping guests safe and providing them with great

skiing and riding more than ever this winter season. In addition to following all local regulations and complying with state guidance, some core ways the resorts are working to keep guests safe this winter include:

- All guests and staff are required to wear a face covering in all aspects of the operation, including while in lift lines, while riding lifts and gondolas, and in all lodges and facilities.
- Reservations are required for all guests – pass holders included. This will allow resorts

to manage access and allow for physical distancing.

- All transactions will be cashless for the coming season. For the most seamless experience, book and pay online in advance.
- All guests are expected to follow Vermont state guidelines.

Okemo opened for the season with top-to-bottom skiing and riding on nine trails serviced by two lifts. All operations are based in Okemo’s Clock Tower base area. For more information, go to www.okemo.com.

Fish & Wildlife mobile app

MONTPELIER, Vt. – The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department released a new mobile application to help the public recreate outdoors in a safe and socially distanced manner. The “Vermont Outdoors” app connects the public with department lands, fish and wildlife regulations, and up-to-date Covid-19 guidance.

“We’ve seen an increase in outdoor recreation across our 100 wildlife management areas and nearly 200 fishing access areas since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic,” said Lands and Facilities Administrator

Mike Wichrowski. “This new app will encourage Vermonters to find new opportunities to hunt, fish, trap, or view wildlife on public lands and waters. The app will also provide access to fish and wildlife law digests, baitfish dealers, department news and current events, and the ability to report fish and wildlife violations.”

This project was paid for with federal funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security stimulus to enhance outdoor recreational opportunities. Other CARES funded projects completed by the department included improvements to boat ramps and other

water access points, wildlife management area roads, parking areas, and informational signage.

The application can be downloaded at the Apple App Store or Google Play.

The start of bird feeding season

MONTPELIER, Vt. – The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department recommends Vermonters put up bird feeders after Dec. 1 to avoid attracting bears.

Doug Morin, Vermont Fish & Wildlife’s bird project leader, said, “This may be a particularly good winter for attracting winter birds arriving from Canada, including Evening Grosbeaks and Common Redpolls. Black oil sunflower is a good seed choice that will attract a variety of birds, and folks may want to try other seeds or suet to attract certain species. Thistle, for example, attracts many of the finches. Gardeners will find leaving late-blooming flowers uncut provides seeds which can also attract birds.”

While watching your bird feeders, you can participate in one or more bird monitoring projects by looking up the Audubon Christmas Bird Count, the Great Backyard Bird Count, and Project Feeder Watch – all three collect important information to understanding bird populations.

The Fish & Wildlife Department offers these tips for bird-friendly bird feeding:

- Keep cats inside. Domestic cats are the leading cause of bird death in North America.
- Place feeders closer than four feet or farther than 10 feet from a window to reduce bird collisions.
- Clean feeders regularly to eliminate harmful bacteria and viruses. Be sure to rinse and dry before refilling.

Feed birds only between Dec. 1 and April 1, but remove feeders if you see signs of bears. Most bears should be in dens during this time, but some delay entering their dens or re-emerge to feed if there is a period of warm weather.



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LEGAL NOTICES

AUCTION

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Auction held Dec. 12, 2020 at 11 a.m. at 96 Route 106 N. Springfield. 05150. Call 802-683-7104. To be auctioned: Jay Huntley #51 & #98 Andy Aldrich # 92 & # 159 Brenda Kenyon # 151 Matt Reynolds # 177 Orion Pfenning # 197

FOR SALE

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – 2016 Subaru Forester for sale. STANDARD SHIFT. 85,000 miles, excellent condition, silver. Offers around \$11,000 considered. Call 802-376-8249 or email healewoc@gmail.com.

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PERU, Vt. - J.J. Hapgood General Store & Eatery Is Hiring! Seeking motivated & inspired candidates for Kitchen & Hospitality/FOH. Line Cooking or Wood Fired Cooking Experience Helpful for kitchen position. Food Service & Retail both helpful for FOH positions. Email Andry@jjhapgood.com or stop in 305 Main Street Peru. 802-824-4800.

SNOW PLOWING

LUDLOW, Vt. – Snowplowing and sanding, Ludlow area, residential only. Reasonable rates. Contact SK Logging at 802-384-0313.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

WOOD BOILERS

NEW HAMPSHIRE RESIDENTS save up to 30% of the system and installation cost on a Maxim wood pellet boiler. Contact New England Outdoor Furnaces at 603-863-8818. (TFN)

BUYING/ SELLING

BUYING-SELLING Coins, Paper Money, Vintage Sports-Postcards, Comics. See our displays at Chester Stone House Antiques. Open 7 Days. 802-379-2353. House calls available.



Green Mountain Unified School District

Invitation to Bid

For Snow Removal Services at

Cavendish Town Elementary School

Bid Requirements:

1. Bids must include per storm cost of plowing and sanding costs as well as seasonal contract cost; bid should also include cost to removal snow from around buildings.
2. Bidder must meet with building Principal to discuss the school's needs.
3. Bidder may also submit a separate bid for roof shoveling.
4. Bid should also include payment requirements.

Bid Due Date:

All submittals must be sealed and delivered no later than 3:00 PM on Thursday, December 10, 2020 for public opening at that time. All bids are to be submitted to the following address with the words "GMUSD Snow Removal" clearly stated on the envelope. All bids must be mailed or hand delivered in a sealed envelope. E-MAILS will be accepted; please send them to cheryl.hammond@trs.org.

Send Bids to:

Cheryl Hammond, Business Manager
Two Rivers Supervisory Union
609 VT Route 103 S., Ludlow, VT 05149
(802) 875-6433

For Site Visits, please contact:

Katherine Fogg, Principal
Cavendish Town Elementary School
573 Main Street, Proctorsville, VT 05153
(802) 875-7758

Contract Award:

The Green Mountain Unified School Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids which may be submitted. It also reserves the right to award a contract to the bidder who, in the opinion of the Green Mountain Unified School Board, will best meet the needs of the schools.

The River Valley Technical Center

Carpentry Program

Is now accepting sealed bids

for our 2020-2021 modular house.

The Carpentry Program is building a:

30 x 40 Ranch

Bids will be accepted until:

12:00 p.m. December 11, 2020

To download a bid packet, please go to www.rvtc.org

For more information, please contact:

Ms. Erin Hunter, Carpentry Instructor
River Valley Technical Center
307 South Street
Springfield, VT 05156
802-885-8330
ehunter@rvtc.org

Warning for Special Town Meeting

Town of Westminster, Vermont

January 5, 2021 by Australian Ballot

Vote to take place at the Westminster Town Hall

on Route 5

From 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Article I Shall the voters of Westminster approve the withdrawal of the Town of Westminster from the Windham Northeast Union Elementary School District ?

Article II In the event Article I is approved, shall the voters of Westminster authorize and instruct the Westminster Selectboard to undertake all steps necessary to do the following;

- 1) Form a Westminster Town School District to be responsible for the operation of schools and educational programs for Westminster students;
- 2) Obtain the return to the Westminster Town School District of all school buildings and property owned by the Town School District prior to the forced merger;
- 3) Appoint five (5) town residents to an interim Town School District Board to effect the transition and return of the operation of schools and educational programs to the Town School District; and
- 4) Schedule a Town election at the next annual Town meeting of 2021 to elect five (5) town residents to the Town School District Board with staggered terms as existed prior to the forced merger.

Dated this 30th day of November 2020, Westminster, Vermont

SPRINGFIELD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

SPECIAL MEETING

DECEMBER 8, 2020

WARNING

The legal voters of the Springfield Town School District, are hereby notified and warned to meet at Riverside Middle School, 13 Fairground Road, in the Town of Springfield, on Tuesday, December 8, 2020, between the hours of eight o'clock (8:00) in the morning (a.m.), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the evening (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business:

ARTICLE I

Shall bonds or notes of the Springfield Town School District in an amount not to exceed Nine Million Dollars (\$9,000,000) be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of making energy efficiency improvements to the District's elementary, middle and high school buildings, the estimated cost of such improvements being Ten Million Four Hundred Four Thousand Three Hundred Forty-Six Dollars (\$10,404,346)?

State funds may not be available at the time this project is otherwise eligible to receive state school construction aid. The District is responsible for all costs incurred in connection with any borrowing done in anticipation of the receipt of school construction aid.

The legal voters of the Springfield Town School District are further warned and notified that informational meetings will be held for the purpose of explaining the subject proposed school building improvements and the financing thereof as follows:

Date	Time	Location
Tuesday, November 17, 2020	6:00 p.m.	60 Park Street, Auditorium https://youtu.be/TIDZwAtBmtM
Thursday, December 3, 2020	7:00 p.m.	60 Park Street, Auditorium https://meet.google.com/mgs-ztbc-gup

The legal voters of the Springfield Town School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Section 553 of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Adopted and approved at a meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Springfield Town School District held on November 2, 2020. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Springfield Town School District on November 4, 2020.

School Board Director, Chair

School Board Director, Vice-Chair

School Board Director

School Board Director

District Clerk

yellow page

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

\$125 for 13 Weeks • \$200 for 26 Weeks • \$350 for 52 Weeks

Prices are based on a 20 word listing. An additional 25 cents for each word thereafter.

art crafts gifts

GALLERY AT THE VAULT

Vermont State Craft Center
68 Main St., Springfield, VT
Open Wed. & Sat. 11-5, Fri. 11-7

Book your own **Holiday Open House** for up to 5 people. Call to sign up for an hour on Sundays Nov. 15, 22, 29, Dec. 6 or 13. Noon-4 p.m.

New Open Wall Show: **People, Places & Things**

Winter Landscape in Watercolor Class with Rob O'Brien 1/16/21 Register. (in person class at UU Meetinghouse)

Face Masks required. Curbside available by request.
www.galleryvault.org // galleryvault@vermontel.net
802-885-7111
(02/09/21 - 13)

auto

CAVENDISH AUTO WORKS

Need car repair done. We are just a call away.

Open Monday-Friday 8-5

Call us at 802-554-0156 Cavendish, VT
(01/12/21 - 13)

bakery

CROWS BAKERY & OPERA HOUSE CAFE

Celebrating 22 years in business with yummy Pastries, Cakes, Pies, Breads, Cookies. Full Breakfast & Lunch. 73 Depot St. Proctorsville 802-226-7007. crowsbakeryandcafe.com. Like us on Facebook.
(06/01/21 - TFN - 26)

builders/contractors

PETER JORDAN CONSTRUCTION

Over 25 years of experience in all phases of construction. Framing, finish carpentry, custom showers and tile work, hardwood flooring, decks, roofing and siding. Fully insured and registered with the State of Vermont. Lead Paint Certified. Located in Proctorsville. 802-226-8125.
(12/08/20 - TFN - 13)

HAMMER FOR HIRE LLC

802-376-3275 ~ "Not just for bangin' nails."

We offer a variety of services, ranging from handyman projects, through small restorations to full blown renovations. Our clients expect a great experience from start to finish. Our professionalism matched with proficiency, customer care, and quality hit that mark. We are fully insured and ready for your next project, big or small.

Like us on FACEBOOK: Hammer for Hire LLC @nedmortensen2008
(06/15/21 - 52)

chiropractor

FOUR SEASONS CHIROPRACTIC, PC

Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977 Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10AM-6PM
(08/17/21 - TFN - 52)

cleanouts

A BARE CLEANING

Basements, attics, houses, barns. Household items and junk removed. Free estimates, insured. Call Reg at 802-376-4159.
(12/08/20 - 13)

masonry

MOORE MASONRY

Fireplaces, chimneys and liners, chimney sweeps, patios, walls, steps, restoration and repairs. Fully insured, free estimates. Contact Gary Moore at 802-824-5710 mooremasonry802@gmail.com.
(09/07/21 - 52)

DRC STONE DESIGN

Specializing in all Stone Masonry Applications including veneer, walls, patios, walkways. Fully insured. Free estimates. 32 years experience. Contact Dan Field at 802-384-0122 or stoneart49@gmail.com or visit drcstonedesign.com.
(12/08/20 - 13)

old tools wanted

CASH PAID FOR OLD TOOLS

Planes, axes, chisels, Stanley tools, tool chests. Call 802-579-5891.
(12/15/20 - 13)

property management

JB PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Snow plowing and Sanding, Property Management with fuel check options, and Lawn Care services. Pricing by occurrences or seasonal contracts.

Contact us at 802-591-1673; jbpropertymgmtvt@gmail.com. Find us on facebook at Jbpropertymanagement.
(06/01/21 - 26)

calendar

REAL ESTATE/AUTO/HELP WANTED

Like us on Facebook! @VermontJournal

Snow Tires Are In!

CHEEVER TIRE
IS YOUR ONE-STOP SOLUTION

Passenger Cars - Trucks - Farm
Our Own Truck Tire Retreads
Great Tires & Great Service

CHEEVER TIRE SERVICE
Your Basic Full Service
Locally Owned Tire Store

Mon - Fri from 8 am - 5 pm
Now Open Saturdays thru Jan. 16
Rt. 5 North, Bellows Falls, VT - 802-463-3320

DEC. 5 –
CHESTER, Vt. – Chester Helping Hands will host a special dinner for Chester seniors the morning of Saturday, Dec. 5. The menu will be a ham dinner and dessert. They need a head count ASAP as

OVER 2000
BROKEN-IN TIRES

MANY SETS OF 4

CANON TIRE
I-91, Exit 8, Ascutney, VT
802-674-5600
NEW TIRES TOO!!

there are 150 dinners. Please call the Motel in the Meadow at 802-875-2626 or Town Hall at 802-875-2173.

DEC. 8 –
CHESTER, Vt. – The Southern Vermont Astronomy Group will host a Zoom guided tour

of the Williams College planetarium Tuesday, Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. The tour will feature an astronomy lecture like one given during an actual tour of the facility. There will be time for questions and answers after. Details for the Zoom link can be found at the SoVerA

website at www.sovera.org/events.

DEC. 12 –
WHITE RIVER JCT, Vt. – Northern Stage has partnered with Vermont Public Radio to present a free one-time-only broadcast of “It’s a Wonderful Life: A Radio Play” Saturday, Dec. 12 at 3 p.m. Also available to stream on demand from Dec. 8-Jan. 3 as part of Northern Stage’s 2020-21 season. For tickets and information, call 802-296-7000 or visit www.northernstage.org.

WALPOLE, N.H. – The First Congregational Church of Walpole will be having a cookie and candy sale at the church on the Common Saturday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Come get your holiday sweets. Masks and social distancing required.

DEC. 12-13 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Ludlow Fire Department will host a Stuff the Fire Truck Food Drive at Shaw’s Supermarket the weekend of Dec. 12-13, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., to benefit the Black River Good Neighbors Food Shelf.

TUESDAYS –
BElLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Come check out TOPS – Take Off Pounds Sensibly. The first visit is free. All are welcome; youth must be at least 9 to attend and have parental permission. Meetings are every Tuesday at St. Charles Education Center located at 39 Green St. in Bellows Falls. Weigh-ins start at 6 p.m. Handicap accessible.

WEDNESDAYS –
BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – Every Wednesday at 10 a.m., Taking Steps Brattleboro is offering Advanced Care Planning informational meetings via Zoom. To receive the Zoom invitation, call Dan Freeman at 802-257-0775 ext. 101 or email dan.freeman@brattleborohospice.org.

DAILY –
REGION – If you want to drink that’s your business, but if you want to stop, that’s ours. Contact Alcoholics Anonymous at www.aavt.org or call your local hotline at 802-885-8281 and join a meeting.

Split the Ticket Fund

REGION – Many Vermonters in need will receive a surprise gift of warmth this winter thanks to the Split the Ticket Fund. While thousands of Vermont families receive fuel assistance through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, there are many Vermonters that don’t qualify but still need help. These families can receive donations of heating oil, propane, or kerosene from the Split the Ticket Fund, a Vermont based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

This innovative program matches cash donations with fuel donations from Vermont providers. The delivery ticket is split 50/50 – every \$1 donated buys \$2 worth of fuel. Vermont’s heating fuel and service providers are mostly small, family-owned businesses. This program gives them, as well as local businesses, organizations, and individuals, the opportunity to provide a gift of warmth to someone in their community. The fund has delivered more than 100,000 gallons of free heating fuel to our neighbors in need.

Congressman Peter Welch, who has personally delivered nearly 1,000 of these gallons over the past decade, praised the Split the Ticket program. “It is good to know that Vermonters look out for each other during our challenging winters, especially this year. I wish I could hop in the truck to lend a hand and look forward to doing so in the future.”

Those receiving a gift of warmth are nominated by someone in the community. If there is someone you think is deserving this winter, please send an email to split@vermontfuel.com. This year the need is not only for fuel but to repair or replace fuel tanks in order to comply with Vermont’s AST regulations. The Split Fund will provide the same 50% match with heating service providers that donate labor and materials.

Go to www.vermontfuel.com/split for more information.

P&M Auto Sales

Quality Used Cars and Trucks

Ask about our **Guaranteed Credit Approval**
Bankruptcy • Bad Credit First Time • Divorce

Specials of the Week

2015 Volkswagen Jetta 4 Cylinder Auto	2014 Mazda 6 4 Cylinder 4 Door Auto Sun Roof
2015 Ford Fusion 4 Cylinder 4 Door Auto Leather Sun Roof	2011 Honda CRV AWD 4 Cylinder Auto Air
2015 Nissan Rogue AWD 4 Cylinder Auto Loaded	2013 Volkswagen Routan SE Auto Leather 7 Passenger

\$20 Offer Expires 12/30/20
Oil Change up to 5-quarts
Doesn't Include Synthetic Oil

280 River Street • Springfield, VT • Tel: 802-885-4963 • 802-885-6200

HELP WANTED

Burtco, Inc. has an immediate opening for a full-time Clerical/Receptionist/Customer Service Position.

Must be able to work independently and multitask.

Exceptional customer service skills along with computer experience required.

Resume with two letters of recommendations accepted IN PERSON ONLY, Monday – Friday, from 7:30 am – 5:00 pm.

185 Route 123, Westminster Sta., VT 05159
802-722-3358

Walpole Valley Tire

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 - 5:00 • Saturday 8:00 - Noon
Route 12 • Walpole, NH • 603-445-2060

Susan J. Colby Real Estate

742 Valley Road | Walpole, NH 03608
603-756-2921 | colbyrealestate@myfairpoint.net

PAYING RENT, WHY? Take a look at this sweet, affordable, well built cape. Easy to maintain with vinyl siding, replacement windows, slate roof and paved driveway. A small home, with small yard, small utility bills, taxes and price! MLS #4835243. \$89,900 Call Sue for more info.

TURN-KEY ranch awaits a buyer seeking a one level, smaller country home with privacy. Cozy living room and 3 bedrooms and polished hardwood floors. Finished basement with laundry, a shed, gazebo and a hot tub. New septic system and roof. Located just outside the village of Saxtons River. Don't miss this one. MLS#4836523 \$175,000.

ANSWERS TO TAKE A BREAK!

— **King Crossword** —
Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

T	H	O	U	C	B	S	A	M	O	K
H	A	N	G	H	O	E	S	A	G	E
O	R	G	A	A	N	G	E	S	T	R
R	E	E	N	T	R	Y	S	I	T	E
N	O	W	A	T	C	O	U	N	T	R
A	B	A	F	O	X	A	Y	E		
B	I	G	O	T	R	Y	Y	E	M	E
D	E	B	U	S	P	O	L	I	T	R
I	D	O	L	A	T	R	Y	A	R	I
A	G	R	A	W	O	E	C	A	L	L
L	E	E	R	O	W	N	E	P	E	E

— **Weekly SUDOKU** —

Answer

8	7	2	5	4	9	1	6	3
5	4	3	1	6	8	2	7	9
6	9	1	2	7	3	4	8	5
7	5	9	4	8	1	3	2	6
4	2	6	3	9	7	8	5	1
3	1	8	6	5	2	9	4	7
9	8	4	7	1	6	5	3	2
2	6	5	9	3	4	7	1	8
1	3	7	8	2	5	6	9	4

Professional Friendly Service
13 Clinton Street • Springfield, VT 05156
802-885-2500 • www.musevermont.com

Muse & Associates REAL ESTATE

Lori Muse, Broker/Owner
Carol Cole, REALTOR

Contemporary ranch style home located high above the town. This three bedroom home offers lots of desirable features including an open concept living/dining/kitchen area with high ceilings and walls of windows/sliders (to the wrap around deck) taking in the local countryside and views. The main floor offers a master bedroom with bath and walk-in closet, an office/bedroom and bath. The daylight, walk out basement offers an office, second living area, bedroom, den, bath/laundry and utility room. Front porch, detached two car garage and shed. Situated on 4+/- mostly open acres of meadows with garden spaces. Added bonuses include Solar power and paved driveway. \$269,900

Homes like these are a rare find with big, spacious rooms, high ceilings and lots of details. The first floor of this home offers formal dining room, formal and informal living room (with woodstove) newer kitchen with walk-in pantry, laundry room, master suite with full bathroom, a large front/center hall. Upstairs offers a second master bedroom with bath, sitting room, additional bedrooms, bath and in-law kitchen for configuration as one pleases. Outside offers wrap around porches, attached garage, deck area and a large Barn. The grounds consisting of 1+/- acres is a delightful walk including gardens, fire pit, former water feature. Well cared for and worth a look! \$349,900

Summer Street offers homes of great architectural style and this home is no exception with its federal hip roof and rich details. A good sized home with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, formal dining, a good sized living room, spacious eat in kitchen, walk-out basement with high ceilings and a walk-up attic. Back yard for personal enjoyment, side walks for a pleasant stroll up and down the neighborhood. \$119,900

Rural Living with all the extras. This three bedroom contemporary offers two floors of living space with walk-in first floor entry with 2+ car garage, mudroom, family room with woodstove, den and 3/4 bath. The upgraded main floor offers a bright, functional kitchen with island and wine fridge, open concept to the dining/living area, master bedroom with walk in closet and bath, office, two more bedrooms and a laundry/bath. Outside offers a new deck, patio, screened porch with hottub, 4+/- acres with woods, garden space, mini apple grove and a shed for storage. \$329,000

Barrett & Valley Associates Inc.
“Professional Real Estate Services”
www.barrettandvalley.com
39 Pleasant Street, Grafton

Immaculate Custom Ranch On 5.3+/- Acres, Close To Ski Mountains
3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths
Chester, \$430,000

Unique & Immaculate Home! Getaway On 5+/- Level Acres!
2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
Grafton, \$339,000

Turn Key Chalet on 20.5+/- Acres
3 Bay Garage w/Workbench!
3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
Chester, \$295,000

Improved Split Level Office Building/ Apartment
Set On 2.09+/- Acres
Rockingham, \$229,000

Renovated Ranch Close To Skiing & 4 Season Recreation!
3 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, 4+/- Acres
Townshend, \$179,000

Chalet Camp On 5.6+/- Acres
Open Concept Living w/Balcony
4 Bedroom, 1 Bath
Reading, \$89,000

1.7+/- Surveyed Acre Lot
Access To Town Water & Sewer
Close To Village
Chester, \$55,000

15+/- Acres, 2 Lots
River Lot Great For Recreation
Other Lot Has Septic Design
Grafton, \$44,000

1.05 +/- Acre Level Building Lot
Easy Drive To MT Snow & Stratton
Jamaica, \$38,500

GRAFTON 802-843-2390
CHESTER 802-875-2323
SPRINGFIELD 802-885-8282
NEWFANE 802-365-4311

holiday happenings

Living Nativity at Chester Baptist Church

CHESTER, Vt. – Enjoy a living nativity scene this Christmas season, including children in costume and a few live animals! Gathering to watch is prohibited because of Covid-19 safety restrictions, but you are encouraged to view the nativity scene and listen to carol music as you walk or drive



See the living Nativity scene in Chester. PHOTO PROVIDED

by. In lieu of what has traditionally been a narrated short play, a printed handout of the Christmas story will be available for taking. The nativity scene will be occurring Saturday, Dec. 5, from 2-2:30 p.m., in front of Chester Baptist Church, 162 Main Street in downtown Chester.

Yes, there will be Christmas in Grafton

GRAFTON, Vt. – The Covid-19 pandemic has caused many changes in our lives, but the women and men of the Grafton Fire and Rescue Auxiliary continue to be constant in their support of local first responders and the community, according to Auxiliary President Amber Stevens. She further stated, “You can help in this effort and bring some normalcy to your home as we enter the holiday season by visiting Grafton Village and purchasing a Christmas tree at the annual Christmas in Grafton Festival.”

As part of the festival, the Auxiliary will be selling fresh cut Vermont trees near the Phelps Barn at the Grafton Inn Dec. 5 and 6, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., both days. Later, any remaining trees will be available at the Grafton Village Garage. There will be trees of various types ranging from 5 to 10 feet in height and local delivery can be arranged. Even though the Christmas

in Grafton event will be scaled back this year, it is rumored that Santa may be passing through to check out the decorations around the village on his way to the North Pole. Details are limited at this time, but Grafton Firefighters have been asked to be ready with a fire engine to escort Santa around the village. As more information becomes available, it will be posted on the Grafton Fire and Rescue page on Facebook.

Chester Christmas Market will be outside

CHESTER, Vt. – St. Luke’s Christmas Market: Culinary Classics & Crafts To Go will now be held on the lawn at 313 Main Street in Chester, Saturday, Dec. 5, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., with a special time for advanced order pick-up from 9:30-10 a.m. Increased restrictions because of the coronavirus required thinking outside the box and moving the market outside the church. One-way traffic will make shopping for food and

holiday decorations easy and fast. Required social distancing outside and masks will make browsing in-person safe. Although many changes were forced by the restrictions, market features will include an astounding variety of frozen homemade soups, entrees, jams and preserves, edible and play treats for pets, and evergreen sprays to decorate doors or one’s car grill. Advance ordering is strongly encouraged, and a partial list

of available items is listed on www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org. Please contact Lillian Willis at 802-875-1340 or lbwillisct@comcast.net or Eileen Widger at 802-875-4604 or twidger@sbeglobal.net to place an order and bring some delicious delights home for the holidays.

SAPCC sells fun gift boxes for kids this season

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Santa might not be visiting with children much this year, but each purchase of a Holiday Gift Box from Springfield Area Parent Child Center comes with a golden ticket to attend a drive-through Santa visit Dec. 12 outside of their center in North Springfield, Vt. Other items in the box include a large paint your own cookie fresh from Debbie’s Sweet Creations, a picture frame ornament craft, several games and activities, and generous discounts to the Edgar May Health & Recreation Center, Billings Farm & Museum, Endless Creations Pottery Studio, and Springfield Cinemas 3. There is also popcorn and hot chocolate included to enjoy while watching their “Twas the Night” video online, which includes performers from Dreamz in Motion Dance &

Performance Center. Gift boxes can be ordered online now at www.sapcc-vt.org or by calling 802-886-5242. Boxes will be on sale through Dec. 12 and can be picked up at SAPCC during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. This annual fundraising event was created by Carrie Jewell, a long-time supporter of SAPCC. The event is sponsored by Mascoma Bank, Tortola Headwinds Inc., Willow Farm, Indelible Inc., VTel, All Seasons Construction, and Nature Springs Water. All proceeds from this event are to benefit Springfield Area Parent Child Center, a nonprofit organization that provides many supportive programs and services to over 3,000 children, parents, families, and caregivers in the greater Springfield area every year.

This Holiday Season will surely be a challenge. With fewer events and smaller gatherings,

The Rock and Hammer

will be doing things differently this year. We will be offering our Annual Holiday discount for you to use at your convenience between November 28th and December 20th

Add your name to our mailing list and receive

20% off your purchase.

The Rock and Hammer
Crafters of Fine Jewelry
26 Village Square ~ Bellows Falls
(802)463-2289 www.therockandhammer.com

Springfield Lions Club

Christmas Tree Sale

Springfield Plaza

Friday 12/4 from 4-8:30pm
Saturday 12/5 from 9am-5pm
Sunday 12/6 from 9-11am

\$35

Local delivery available

Sage JEWELRY & GIFTS

ON THE GREEN, CHESTER, VT

A Vermont Craft Fair in a store!

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802-875-SAGE

SHARON'S ON THE COMMON

Home of Sharon's Shawls & Scarves

Clothing from around the world and special treasures from Vermont

Season's Greetings!

Open Thursday - Sunday from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
802-875-3000 • <https://sharonsofvermont.square.site>
80 The Common, Chester, VT

Vermont Barns

THE WADSWORTH COMPANY

New Construction / Timber Framing
Renovation / Architectural Design

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802 Roofing & Exteriors

10086 VT Route 30
Bondville, VT 05340

802.297.1600
WadsworthCompany.com

196 Main Street
Ludlow, VT 05149

Six Loose Ladies
Yarn & Fiber

Virtual Knit Nite
Every Thursday from 7-8pm
Via Zoom

Open:
Wednesday - Friday, 12-4
Saturday 10-4

www.SixLooseLadies.com
802-875-7373

287 Main St.
On The Green, Chester, VT

Artisans Alley Annex

On Chester's Historic Green
Open Saturday and Sunday

Featuring one of a kind gifts
Made in Vermont ~ Handcrafted Treasures

Ludlow is Graced by new women's boutique

3 GRACES

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Charm Creativity and Joy for Her and Home

122 Main St, Ludlow, VT // Instagram // Facebook

Blue Sky
EST. 1995

160 Main Street Ludlow, Vermont BlueSkyVT.com 802-228-2280

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1995 - 2020

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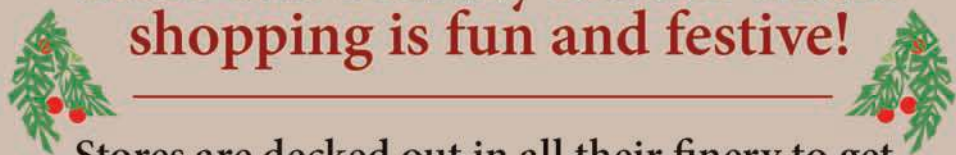
Open 11am - 5pm
Tuesday through Saturday
Curbside Pickup Available

The Book Nook 136 Main Street, Ludlow, VT
802-228-3238

Visit facebook.com/TheBookNookVT for the latest information



Visit The Vermont Country Store this holiday season where shopping is fun and festive!



- Stores are decked out in all their finery to get you in the holiday spirit
- Stocking stuffers to delight and amuse
- Heirloom ornaments to treasure
- Unique gifts for everyone from 9-90
- Spacious aisles means shopping with comfort and ease
- Ship packages direct from our stores

SAFETY IS OUR TOP PRIORITY!

- We limit customers in stores so no crowds
- Safe, fast and convenient checkout

Enjoy a take out lunch from Mildred's Grill

Store hours: 10 - 5 daily
Best hours to shop are before noon
and after 2pm

WESTON ROCKINGHAM
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